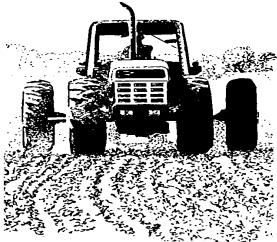




TENNESSEE WEEKLY
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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2004 Weather Crop 01

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Week Ending April 4, 2004

SPRING FARMING ACTIVITIES OFF TO AN EXCELLENT START

The 2004 farming season is underway now and growers report most activities are on-schedule after a relatively mild winter. The wheat crop made it through the winter in good shape and most of the acreage has been top-dressed. Pastures are greening-up and hay supplies remain adequate. Corn planting progress has advanced rapidly due to warm, dry weather the last half of March. Tobacco growers are monitoring the growth of transplants in greenhouses. Other major field activities included fertilizing pastures, herbicide applications, and land preparation for planting cotton. With the mild winter, the State’s apple and peach crops have avoided any major frost damage. Precipitation last week was slightly below average in Tennessee, with the driest portion in the western part of the State. There were 4 days considered suitable for fieldwork last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 3 percent short, 86 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 4 percent short, 84 percent adequate, and 12 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS: Through April 4, 2004					CONDITION: On April 2, 2004					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2003	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Winter Wheat - Jointed	59	N/A	46	48	Winter Wheat	0	0	16	59	25
Winter Wheat - Top Dressed	91	N/A	97	92	Apples	0	0	10	86	4
Corn - Planted	21	N/A	28	12	Alfalfa Hay	0	1	19	69	11
Apples - Budding or Beyond	83	N/A	71	70	Other Hay	0	2	23	65	10
Apples - Blooming or Beyond	42	N/A	37	32	Pastures	0	2	25	60	13
Peaches - Budding or Beyond	92	N/A	85	89	Cattle	0	2	24	59	15
Peaches - Blooming or Beyond	66	N/A	58	64						

CORN: Corn planting is well underway and off to a good start. This planting pace is almost double the normal and is a week ahead of schedule.

WHEAT: The wheat crop was rated in mostly good condition with over half reaching the jointing stage. Top-dressing neared completion, while herbicide and pesticide applications were in progress.

FRUIT: The apple and peach crops were developing at a pace well above last year and the 5-year average. Ninety percent of the apples were reported in good-to-excellent condition.

PASTURES, HAY & CATTLE: Pastures and hay fields have improved daily with March’s warm weather boosting growth. Pastures were rated in mostly good condition and farmers are applying fertilizer. Livestock producers reported that the State’s cattle were also in mostly good condition with adequate hay stocks.

This is the first issue of the *Tennessee Weather & Crop Bulletin* for the 2004 crop season. The Bulletin is released weekly throughout the crop season ending around early November. It is based on reports received from county agents with the Extension Service and local cooperators. It can be accessed each Monday afternoon shortly after 3:00 CDT at our website <http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn>

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION For week ending: April 4, 2004 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending 4/3/04				Current Week 4/4/04	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	From Normal	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN					Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	83	33	53	-6	0.34	3	12.06	-2.65	0	-9
Tri-City_RGNL_A	78	39	51	-2	1.45	5	10.91	-0.01	0	+0
Brownsville_TN	82	34	52	-6	0.42	3	10.24	-4.40	0	-4
Chattanooga/Lov	83	37	55	+0	1.22	3	12.85	-3.70	0	-4
Clarksville_Sew	74	29	48	-7	0.17	1	7.23	-7.24	0	-4
Cookeville	81	30	51	-3	1.16	3	17.10	+1.25	0	+0
Covington	82	37	53	-4	0.47	1	10.58	-4.00	0	-7
Crossville_AP	76	33	50	-3	1.53	4	15.59	-0.29	0	+0
Dickson_AG	64	31	48	-8	1.02	3	12.63	-2.23	0	-4
Dover_1W	81	37	52	-3	0.39	4	7.21	-7.54	0	-4
Dyersburg	81	36	52	-6	0.34	2	9.36	-4.25	0	-8
Erwin_1W	77	37	50	+0	1.64	5	8.48	-3.72	0	-4
Huntingdon_Wate	82	34	51	-5	0.34	2	9.56	-5.00	0	-4
Jackson_AG	83	34	52	-5	0.30	2	8.85	-5.22	0	-6
Kingston_AG	80	36	53	+2	1.80	3	15.74	-1.16	0	+0
Knoxville_AP	80	38	54	+1	0.85	3	11.00	-3.00	0	-3
Lewisburg	80	31	51	-3	0.80	2	14.10	-1.29	0	-4
Lexington_TN	81	32	50	-5	0.32	3	11.43	-2.56	0	+0
Linden	82	30	50	-5	1.10	3	13.80	-2.02	0	-4
Martin	80	34	51	-4	1.10	3	10.46	-3.63	0	-4
Mc_Minnville_Tn	74	33	51	-6	0.82	3	15.03	-0.21	0	-7
Memphis_AG	81	35	53	-7	0.36	3	11.81	-2.58	0	-12
Milan	80	29	51	-4	0.28	2	8.60	-5.84	0	-4
Murfreesboro_5N	80	35	52	-3	0.90	2	14.95	+0.39	0	-11
Nashville_Metro	80	40	53	-3	1.26	3	14.24	+1.25	0	-4
Newcomb	80	38	52	+3	1.07	5	12.48	-2.15	0	+0
Oneida	80	37	52	+2	1.56	4	12.98	-1.65	0	-4
Pikeville	77	37	53	-3	1.66	3	14.38	-1.55	0	-4
Portland_TN	80	37	51	-3	0.66	3	12.61	-1.46	0	-1
Pulaski_Water_P	81	32	51	-7	0.75	3	18.45	+2.22	0	-8
Savannah_6SW	83	35	53	-6	1.48	3	15.61	-0.75	0	-4
Sparta_TN	79	31	53	-2	1.24	4	16.88	+1.52	0	+0
Springfield	80	33	49	-4	1.19	3	11.73	-1.90	0	-3
Springhill	82	34	52	-2	1.44	2	16.75	+1.27	0	-4
Union_City	78	32	50	-5	0.89	3	10.78	-3.21	0	-4
Waynesboro_TN	81	30	50	-4	0.92	4	14.82	-1.89	0	-4

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days.
 Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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